



**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

**Freedom of Information / Privacy Acts**

**Release**

SUBJECT: Silas Newton

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☐ FOIA/PA ☐ Litigation ☐ Executive Order Applied

Requester  b7C  
Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Computer or Case Identification Number 312948

Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_

\* File 100-7244 Section \_\_\_\_\_

Serials Reviewed 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16, 55, 4

Limited Classification  
Review Conducted  
See Top Serial

Release Location \* File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

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Requester \_\_\_\_\_

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Computer or Case Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_

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Serials Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Release Location \* File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

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Requester \_\_\_\_\_

Subject \_\_\_\_\_

Computer or Case Identification Number \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Case \_\_\_\_\_

\* File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

Serials Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_

Release Location \* File \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

\* INDICATE IF FBIHQ OR FIELD OFFICE FILE NUMBER

(THIS FORM IS TO BE MAINTAINED AS THE TOP SERIAL OF THE FILE, BUT NOT SERIALIZED.)



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of the Attorney General

STATE BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO

BERT W. LEVIT  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

HARTWELL H. LINNEY  
Chief Assistant Attorney General  
Division of Civil Law

ARTHUR H. SHERRY  
Chief Assistant Attorney General  
Division of  
Criminal Law and Enforcement

April 25, 1951.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau  
of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Re Silas M. Newton - No. 835861

The subject named above is cited as authority for a highly fanciful book entitled "Behind the Flying Saucers", written by one Frank Scully and published by Holt in 1950. The gist of the book is that the so-called "flying saucers" are really manifestations of secret and sinister scientific research by the government.

Newton's arrest record, as shown by your files, is familiar to us. He is the owner of the Newton Oil Company, a small but active oil producing organization with offices at 315 Franklin Street, Denver, Colorado. He describes himself as a graduate of Yale, which appears to be true and as a geophysicist engaged in secret governmental research.

He is apparently wealthy, or at least possessed of sufficient temporary means to live in luxury and dress expensively. His home is at 1929 Whitley Street, Hollywood, but all messages to him, or appointments with him, must be made through the Hollywood Knickerbocker Hotel. One [redacted] is associated with him in Denver.

We are writing you because [redacted] has stated that a complete investigation of Newton has been made by your Bureau. Presumably this investigation has confirmed his cryptic allusions to his being engaged in governmental research of a secret nature.

Other circumstances coming to our attention in the light of his criminal record indicate to us that Newton is engaged in the perpetration of a hoax or swindle of large

RECORDED - 132

INDEXED - 132

EX - 97

100-2244-9  
APR 28 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/20/03 BY 60322 BJA/PAP

No record in Lab  
4/26/51

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

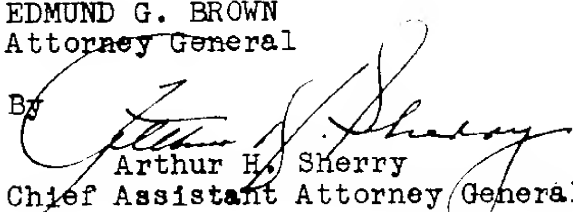
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proportions: If you have any information concerning this man, other than his arrest record, we would greatly appreciate receiving it.

Very truly yours,

EDMUND G. BROWN  
Attorney General

By

  
Arthur H. Sherry  
Chief Assistant Attorney General

AHS:W

May 3, 1951

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100-2244-9

EX - 97

Honorable Edmund G. Brown  
Attorney General  
State of California  
600 State Building  
San Francisco, California

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/18/84 BY SP-6 BJS/KSL  
246802

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

Reference is made to your letter dated April 28, 1951, signed by Arthur H. Sherry, Chief Assistant Attorney General, in which you request information concerning Silas K. Newton - No. 895861.

You are advised that the FBI has conducted an investigation of Newton pertinent to your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JED:mcg

MAILED TO  
MAY 3 1951

Denver (Information) With copy of the incoming  
Los Angeles (Information) With copy of incoming  
San Francisco - With copy of incoming

It is desired that the San Francisco Office contact the office of the Attorney General of the State of California to determine if Newton is violating any Federal Statutes in claiming to be "engaged in governmental research of a secret nature", or in the "perpetration of a hoax or similar large proportions".

Bufiles reflect the arrest record of Newton, FBI No. 895861, last arrested by the New York City Police on 12-25-36 for grand larceny (95-1569).

In the investigation of [redacted] (Bufile 85839), information was received that the subject married Silas K. Newton, a wealthy [redacted] and [redacted] [redacted] 7-6-39.

During this investigation, inquiries were made concerning Newton in Denver and Los Angeles, and no satisfactory information was received. Investigation of [redacted] was conducted in April, 1942, as no evidence was developed indicating

SEARCHED  
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INDEXED  
FILED  
MAY 3 1951  
FBI - DENVER

66 MAY 10 1951

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she was engaged in espionage activities. (65-837-205, 193, 183, 170, 168)

The book "Behind the Flying Saucers", by Frank Scully, was analyzed in a memo from Mr. Ladd to the Director, dated 10-17-50. OSI, Washington, D. C., advised the assertions made in the book are "hogwash". "Time" magazine stated that the scientific credibility of the book was below that of a comic book. Scully claimed that the information for the book was furnished to him by an unidentified lecturer at Denver University, and by a [redacted] Neither of these persons were identified by Scully. (100-224-6)

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Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Beant \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

15. 1809 P

EDMUND G. BROWN  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of the Attorney General

STATE BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO

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Criminal Law and

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Alden  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Lange  
Mr. Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

May 15, 1951

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This will acknowledge and thank you for  
your recent letter in answer to our inquiry relating  
to Silas M. Newton, No. 835861. Your interest and  
cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated.

This office was recently contacted by  
Special Agent [redacted] of your San Francisco office and  
all information relating to the current activities  
of Newton was made available to [redacted]

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

H. G. ROBINSON  
Deputy Director  
Department of Justice

HGR:fla

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/20/03 BY 45167 BTJ/RAP

RECORDED - 40

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JUN 1 1951  
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65 JUN 26 1951